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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

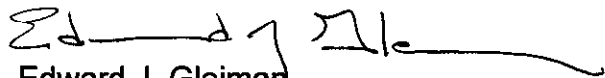
Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R2000-1

NOTICE OF COMMISSION
CORRESPONDENCE

(Issued April 13, 2000)

This Notice is to inform participants that on April 7, 2000 the Commission acted to inform Congressional Offices with relevant jurisdiction that the Postal Service Request in this Docket contemplates the passage of legislation amending Title 39 of the United States Code. A copy of that letter is attached to this Notice.


Edward J. Gleiman
Presiding Officer

Attachment



POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20268-0001

Office of the Chairman

April 7, 2000

The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.
President of the Senate
Room S-212
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Gore:

The Postal Rate Commission is currently conducting public proceedings on a Postal Service proposal to increase postage rates for all classes of mail. The Service submitted its request on January 12, 2000. The law provides that the Commission must complete its analysis and issue a recommended decision on such requests within ten months. I am writing to bring to your attention an unprecedented feature of the Postal Service's proposal, thus seeming to create a nexus between the Commission's administrative proceedings and the legislative process.

The Service's request includes proposed rates for four separate subclasses of mail that are premised on the enactment of legislation amending existing statutory language found in 39 U.S.C. §3626 that is inconsistent with the proposed rates. The four effected subclasses are *Nonprofit Periodicals*, *Classroom Periodicals*, *Standard Nonprofit Enhanced Carrier route*, and *Standard Library*.

At the Commission's February 16, 2000, pre-hearing conference on the Service's request, counsel for the Postal Service agreed to inform the Commission if and when any such legislation was introduced. To date the Commission has heard nothing further on the status of any proposal to amend the existing statute.

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The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.

The Commission is prohibited from *ex parte* discussion of the merits of proposals before it. However, I would be pleased to answer questions you or your staff may have concerning our process, as well as provide comments on any legislative proposal that may materialize.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Gleiman

CC: The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
The Honorable Fred Thompson
The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
The Honorable Thad Cochran
The Honorable Daniel Akaka
The Honorable Dan Burton
The Honorable Henry Waxman
The Honorable John McHugh
The Honorable Chaka Fattah